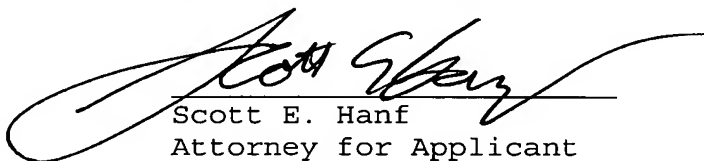


REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims to conform with US practice. Claims 3 and 4 are amended and new claims 18 and 19 added to capture subject matter removed from 3 and 4. Claims 12-17 have been amended to decrease the number of independent claims by re-writing claims 13, 15, 16 and 17 as dependent claims. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott E. Hanf", is written over a horizontal line.

Scott E. Hanf
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 38,906

Customer No. 29494
Hammer & Hanf, P.C.
3125 Springbank Lane
Suite G
Charlotte, NC 28226
Telephone: 704-927-0400
Facsimile: 704-927-0485
H:\2060\007\PrelimAmend052506.doc